

State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

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AWSA, DPI recognize three principals of the year

MADISON—Elizabeth Burmaster, state superintendent of public instruction, and Thomas Beattie, executive director for the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA), announced the names of Wisconsin's three 2005 Wisconsin Principals of the Year.

Principals of the Year are selected for their outstanding leadership and commitment to the education of children of Wisconsin. They are:

- High School Principal of the Year Terry Fondow, East High School, Green Bay;
- Middle School Principal of the Year Jon Fleming, Shattuck and Horace Mann middle schools, Neenah; and
- Elementary School Principal of the Year Steven Greenquist, Palmyra Elementary School.

"Our New Wisconsin Promise strives to provide a quality education for every child by ensuring a strong leader in every school. Through their leadership, these principals establish a standard for academic achievement that encourages all students. Their passion for children and education make a difference in their schools and communities," Burmaster said. "They are representative of the many fine principals who lead public schools in this state."

"Research demonstrates that school principals have a tremendous impact on student learning," said Beattie. "Principals, by their natures, tend to avoid the limelight, but it is important to recognize the important work that they do. The Principal of the Year program allows us to recognize outstanding principals and to remind ourselves how important this work is for our students."

To be selected as a Principal of the Year, principals must be nominated by their colleagues for achievements above and beyond the usual school program. They must maintain high expectations of

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staff, show evidence of outstanding contributions to their school and their profession, and be an established and respected member of the community.

Greenquist will serve as Wisconsin's representative to the National Distinguished Principals Program, sponsored jointly by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Association of Elementary School Principals in corporate partnership with Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company Inc. The National Distinguished Principals Program awards ceremony will be held in Washington, D.C., in October. Both Fleming and Fondow will be honored at a MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals symposium for state Principals of the Year in the fall. All three administrators will be recognized at their respective AWSA workshops and conferences in January and February 2006.